

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-12, and 28 are currently pending in this application. Claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Claim 28 is new.

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 stand rejected as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2001/0047164 A1 to Teague et al. Claims 1-2 and 4-8 stand rejected as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,163,431 to Griep. Claims 1-2 and 4-8 stand rejected as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,511,468 to Itou et al. Claims 1-2 and 4-8 stand rejected as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,897,537 to Berg et al. Finally, claims 9-12 stand rejected as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,240,231 to Ferrera et al.

Reconsideration of these rejections is requested in light of the following remarks. As to claims 1 and 3-8, the undersigned submits that each of these claims are at least patentable over the cited references as they each fail to disclose or suggest "a second catheter . . . having a steerable distal portion" as recited in claim 1. As to claims 9-12 and 28, the undersigned submits that these claims are patentable over the cited references at least because they recite "a first steerable guide catheter having . . . a bendable curve memory portion."

As to claims 6 and 10, these claims, while they depend from either claim 1 or 9, which are described above, have also been amended to further define the invention that they claim.


CONCLUSION

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if questions should arise.

Prompt review and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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